

Mossley Hollins High School



Drugs Policy

At Mossley Hollins we will ensure that at every level, in all our work and throughout all aspects of the school community and its life, all will be treated equally, with respect and dignity, free from discrimination and harassment. Each person will be given fair and equal opportunities to develop their full potential regardless of their age, disability, gender, gender-identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity (refers to staff / employment), socio-economic background and special educational needs. Our school will tackle the barriers which could lead to unequal outcomes for these protected groups, ensuring there is equality of access and that we celebrate and value the diversity within our school community. The school will work actively to promote equality and foster positive attitudes and commitment to an education for equality

Data Protection Statement

The procedures and practice created by this policy have been reviewed under our Data Protection Policy in line with GDPR.

Accepted by the Governing Body 25th February 2021

Mossley Hollins High School

Statement of intent

Mossley Hollins High School takes a zero tolerance approach to the misuse of drugs and alcohol on our premises. This policy has been developed in conjunction with DfE guidance to ensure that everyone is aware of the risks posed by the misuse of drugs and alcohol.

We are committed to:

- Upholding the Health and Safety Policy already in place at the school
- Providing a safe and healthy environment which is conducive to the education of the children in the school
- Providing a robust policy which outlines our zero tolerance approach to drugs and alcohol misuse
- Developing and improving the policy by reviewing it after any incident
- Educating students on the dangers of drug and alcohol misuse

1. Legal Framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to relevant legislation and guidance, including, but not limited to the following:

- DfE (2016) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Education Act 2011
- The Health Act 2006

1.2. This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the school's:

- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Administering Medication Policy

2. Key Roles and Responsibilities

2.1. The Deputy Head Teacher for Behaviour and Inclusion are responsible for dealing with any alcohol and drug related issues within the school.

3. Definitions

3.1. The definition of drugs used in this policy is the definition given by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: 'A substance people take to change the way they feel, think or behave'. This is also used by the DfE in its drugs guidance. This definition refers to the following types of drugs:

- Legal Drugs, including alcohol, tobacco, poppers and volatile substances
- Vapes including the use of CBD oils and THC
- Over the counter and prescription medicines including Xanax
- Illegal drugs controlled by the Misuse of drugs Act 1971 including ecstasy, cannabis, crack/cocaine, heroin, ketamine, amphetamine, khat and LSD.
- Drugs covered by the Psychoactive Substances Act 2016 including spice. These substances mimic the effects of traditional drugs but are synthetic and are normally referred to as 'legal highs'
- Other drugs such as anabolic steroids and volatile substances (solvents).

'Drug use' describes any drug taking. Any drug can potentially lead to harm, including through intoxication, breach of the law or schools rules, or future health problems.

'Drug misuse' is drug taking which leads to social, psychological, physical or legal problems through intoxication, regular excessive consumption and/or dependence.

4. Staff Training

- 4.1. At Mossley Hollins High School, we recognise that early intervention can prevent drug misuse. As such, pastoral staff receive regular updates and advice about drug trends and procedures to follow.

5. Drug Education

- 5.1. All students will receive regular guidance on drugs and alcohol as part of the Life skills curriculum.
- 5.2. Drugs and alcohol will feature regularly as part of pastoral education in the form of classes and assemblies.
- 5.3. Lessons will be delivered as appropriate to the age and phase of the students and will be differentiated according to individual learning styles.
- 5.4. Where appropriate, visitors and external speakers will join us to lead classes on drug and alcohol misuse.
- 5.5. Where student concerns are identified, individual work is offered and/or a referral to external agencies for specialist intervention.

6. Smoking

- 6.1. In accordance with part 1 of the Health Act 2006, Mossley Hollins High School is a smoke free environment. This includes all buildings, out-buildings, playgrounds, playing fields and sheltered areas.
- 6.2. Parents, visitors and staff must not smoke on school grounds and will avoid smoking in front of students and/or encouraging students to smoke.
- 6.3. Students are not permitted to bring smoking or nicotine products onto the premises. This includes, but is not limited to cigarettes, e-cigarettes, lighters, matches and pipes.
- 6.4. In the interest of health and hygiene, smoking will not be permitted at, or around, the school gates.

7. Legal Drugs and Prescribed Medicines

- 7.1. We understand that some students may require medications that have been prescribed by a doctor, or other health professional.
- 7.2. Parents have the primary responsibility for their child's health and should provide the school with all relevant information about their child's medical condition.
- 7.3. Medicines should only be brought onto the premises if it would be detrimental to the child's health if medicines were not administered during their time at the school.
- 7.4. The school will only accept medicines which have been prescribed by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist.
- 7.5. Medicines must be provided in the original container as dispensed and must include the prescriber's instructions for administration and dosage.
- 7.6. Further guidance can be found in the school's Administering Medication Policy.

8. Solvents

- 8.1. Students are not permitted to bring solvent based products onto the premises including, but not limited to, aerosol deodorants, compressed air, and aerosol hairspray.
- 8.2. The school will ensure that potentially hazardous solvents are stored safely and students will be supervised if they are required to come into contact with them.

9. Persons found to be under the influence of Drugs or Alcohol

- 9.1. Staff members found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on school premises will be subject to the Staff Disciplinary Policy in line with their contract of employment. (See Staff Disciplinary Policy)
- 9.2. Visitors to the school found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school grounds will be escorted from the premises. The Headteacher has the authority to ban persistent offenders from the school.
- 9.3. Unless it is a medical emergency, or where there is aggressive or threatening behaviour, students found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol whilst on school premises will be removed from class and escorted to a Senior Leaders' office, where they will be assessed.

- 9.4. The pupil's parent will be asked to remove the pupil from the premises and where required, advised to seek medical attention.
- 9.6. If necessary, a search will be conducted.
- 9.7. The pupil will then be subject to school sanctions such as Seclusion, Behaviour placement or FTE, or a combination of these, whichever is deemed appropriate by the Deputy Headteacher.

10. Medical Emergencies

- 10.1. In drug related medical emergencies, trained first aiders will be summoned.
- 10.2. A teacher will remain with the casualty until the trained first aider arrives.
- 10.3. Other students will be removed from the immediate area, as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- 10.4. Following assessment by the first aider, a decision will be made to ascertain whether an ambulance will be called.
- 10.5. The pupil's parents will be telephoned and told about the incident.
- 10.6. If the pupil is felt to be at risk, the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will come into effect and Children's Social Care will be contacted.
- 10.7. All accidents and incidents, including near misses or dangerous occurrences, will be reported as soon as possible following the school's Health and Safety Policy.

11. Threatening Behaviour

- 11.1. Aggressive and threatening behaviour by students, staff or visitors under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be taken very seriously.
- 11.2. Where aggressive and/or threatening behaviour is displayed, Mossley Hollins High School will not hesitate in contacting the police.
- 11.3. Any staff member or visitor displaying aggressive and/or threatening behaviour will be removed from the premises. Visitors may also face a school site ban barring them from future admittance to school premises.
- 11.4. In the case of students, parents will be contacted and sanctions such as Seclusion and FTE maybe used. In some cases this may result in permanent exclusion.

12. Controlled Substances

- 12.1. Mossley Hollins High School has a zero tolerance policy on illegal drugs.
- 12.2. Following the identification and confiscation of a controlled substance, a staff member will seal the sample in an envelope and include details of the date and time of the confiscation and the name of any witness/witnesses present.
- 12.3. The staff member will store the sample in a secure location. (Main Office Safe)
- 12.4. The incident will be reported immediately to the police who will collect the sample and then deal with it in line with agreed protocols.
- 12.5. Mossley Hollins High School will give the police the name/address/contact details of the pupil, from whom the drugs were taken.
- 12.7. Any further measures will be undertaken in line with the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
- 12.8. Where controlled substances are found on school trips away from the school premises, parents of the pupil, as well as local police, will be notified.
- 14.3. Visitors involved in drug and/or alcohol situations on school premises will be banned from entering school premises indefinitely and, where appropriate, the police will be informed.